

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3189
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
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AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 9620

FROM US DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA
SUBJECT: LAGOS CONFERENCE: 23 AUGUST: SPEECHES BY LEADERS OF
LEBERATION MOVEMENTS

1. SUMMARY: IN SPEECHES AT SECOND DAY OF THE CONFERENCE, OLIVER
TAMBO (ANC/SA) AND JOSHUA NKOMO (PATRIOTIC FRONT) SHARPLY CRITI-
CIZED WESTERN SUPPORT FOR APARTHEID; SAM NUJOMA (SWAPO) REITER-
ATED SWAPO MISTRUST OF SOUTH AFRICAN INTENTIONS IN NAMIBIAN
SETTLEMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. OLIVER TAMBO (ANC/SA) CRITICIZED WESTERN POWERS AND MNCS FOR
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THEIR "CONTINUED DEFIANCE" IN SUPPORTING APARTHEID WITH ARMS, STA-
LLS AND STRATEGIES. HE SINGLED OUT US, FRANCE, UK, FRG, JAPAN,
ISRAEL AND NATO AS "ACCOMPLICES." REGARDING ARMS TRANSFERS,
TAMBO WELCOMED WESTERN INITIATIVES ON RESTRICTING ARMS SALES
BUT CRITICIZED FRENCH INTENTIONS TO HONOR EXISTING ARMS CONTR-
CTS AND THIRD COUNTRY TRANSFERS THROUGH "ISRAEL, BRAZIL, SOUTH
KOREA AND TAIWAN."

3. REFERENCING GERVASI TESTIMONY BEFORE US CONGRESS, TAMBO CLAIMED SOUTH AFRICAN ARMS INVENTORIES HAD BEEN UNDERESTIMATED BY 300 - 400 PERCENT. (COMMENTS ON SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR CAPABILITY REPORTED SEPTEL.) TAMBO ASKED CONFERENCE TO CALL FOR INCREASED POLITICAL AND MATERIAL SUPPORT FOR LIBERATION MOVEMENTS INVOCATION OF A CHAPTER VII MANDATORY ARMS EMBARGO, CURBS ON MNCS AND SAG RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS.

4. SAM NUJOMA, SWAPO PRESIDENT, WHILE EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR EFFORTS OF THE FIVE, SAID OPTION OF NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT IN NAMIBIA WAS BECOMING INCREASINGLY FUTILE. HE SAID NOTHING NEW REGARDING SWAPO POSITIONS ON CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS. HE EXPRESSED DOUBT SAG COULD EVER BE TRUSTED TO LIVE UP TO TERMS OF RESOLUTION 385. THERE COULD BE NO NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT IN NAMIBIA, NUJOMA SAID, SO LONG AS SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS REMAIN TO OBSTRUCT UN EFFORT.

5. JOSHUA NKOMO (PATRIOTIC FRONT) OUTSHONE HIS TWO COLLEAGUES WITH A STEM-WINDER EQUATING APARTHEID WITH FASCISM. IN 1939, NKOMO SAID, THE WORLD DID NOT RELY ON RESOLUTIONS TO FIGHT FASCISM. HE REBUKED THOSE WHO NOW ATTEMPTED TO FIGHT APARTHEID WITH WORDS, "JUST BECAUSE IT IS TAKING PLACE IN AFRICA." HE DEMANDED THAT CONFERENCE'S DECLARATION BE A PRESCRIPTION FOR ACTION AND EMPHASIZED THAT AFRIKAANERS NOW WOULD UNDERSTAND ONLY VIOLENCE.

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6. PRAISING EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES FOR THEIR SUPPORT, NKOMO CHIDED WEST FOR OVER-REACTION TO COMMUNIST AND TO LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. APARTHEID, HE ALLOWED, IS PRACTICED BY PEOPLE WHO CLAIM TO BE PART OF WESTERN WORLD.

7. NKOMO, IN CALLING ON CONFERENCE TO MAKE ARMS EMBARGO EFFECTIVE, CITED "NATO ARMS" CAPTURED FROM SMITH FORCES. HE CALLED FOR HALT TO MERCENARIES, "ESPECIALLY FROM WESTERN EUROPE."

8. COMMENT: NUJOMA AND NKOMO SPEECHES WERE MORE NOTABLE FOR WHAT THEY OMITTED. NUJOMA'S CRITICISMS OF WEST WERE SURPRISINGLY MUTED (UKRANIANS AND BYELORUSSIANS EVEN REFUSED TO CLAP. NKOMO AVOIDED ANY COMMENT ON ANGLO-AMERICAN PEACE PLAN. EASUM

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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